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To: ARR Hospital CFOs

Cc: Case Mix Liaisons

From: Mary Beth Pohl, Deputy Director - Research and Methodology, HSCRC *M&P*

Date: January 31, 2012

Re: ARR Implementation - Base Year Case Mix Data

HSCRC staff is providing each ARR hospital with the facility's ARR base year case mix data with variables indicating how HSCRC has classified each discharge using ARR episode of care definitions (e.g., only admission, initial admission, readmission, transfer). Case mix liaisons should receive this data through RepliWeb by February 2, 2012. In addition, HSCRC staff has posted to our website SAS programs used by HSCRC staff to develop ARR episodes of care and to bundle weights for ARR.

http://www.hscrc.state.md.us/init_arr.cfm

Providing the base year case mix data and associated SAS coding to hospitals is part of HSCRC's efforts to provide hospitals with tools for ARR data validation and program monitoring.

Operational Policy Guidelines

HSCRC staff is finalizing revisions to the ARR Operational Policy Guidelines related to ARR weight and episode of care development. We will post the Operational Policy Guidelines on our website next week.

Intervention Plans

To continue sharing information on readmissions reduction strategies, HSCRC staff is consolidating information from hospitals' ARR Year 1 intervention plans. HSCRC staff will post these to our website in February.

Please contact me at mpohl@hscrc.state.md.us or 410-764-2673 with any questions.